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EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor
Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports

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SUMMARY: The total number of unemployed workers in New Hampshire increased over the month by 790 and over the year by 470. The 21,750 unemployed workers in September represented 4.6 percent of the total civilian labor force. The unemployment rates throughout the State's labor Market Areas (LMA) ranged from a high of 5.4 percent in the Salem area, to a low of 3.6 percent in the Concord LMA. The LMA's were evenly divided with five having unemployment rates above the State average, five falling below that level and one LMA even with the State rate. Nationally, the unadjusted unemployment rate increased slightly over the month from 7.2 percent to 7.3 percent of the total civilian labor force. A year ago the national rate for September was 7.1 percent.

LABOR FORCE: The total number of workers in New Hampshire civilian labor force declined from mid-August to mid-September by 3,570 leaving the aggregate at 476,130 workers. Compared to the year ago total, there were 9,490 more workers this year. All labor market areas (LMA) in the State, with only one exception, showed over-the-year increases in their respective labor forces. The Portsmouth LMA lead the growth with 4,390, followed by the Nashua LMA with 2,450 and the Claremont LMA with 1,150. The Dover LMA showed the only decline which was only 330 workers.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: Employment in the State declined by 4,420 workers over the month, leaving the total number of employed personnel at 454,205. There are, on the positive side, 8,945 more workers employed in the State this past September than there were last year at this time. Major over-the-year increases were recorded in the nonmanufacturing segment with an overall increase of 2,950 workers. The service industry and other lead the side of growth with an increase of 2,450 followed by the construction industry with a gain of 1,950. Significant over-the-year decreases were recorded in all three of the categories of Government.

AREA TREND: The month of September brings with it both a seasonal end and a beginning with Labor Day being the traditional focal point for the annual occurrence. Summer camps close prior to the holiday while many of the tourist catering trade and service establishments close with the passing of the holiday, especially in the lakes and seacoast regions. The passing of Labor Day also marks the beginning of the school term throughout the State which brings with it a variety of jobs such as bus drivers, food service workers, janitors, clerical help and teaching positions. It is apparent that the above factors create contradictions of information making for unique variations of data when estimating employment and unemployment and the labor force as a whole.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers reached 279.3 in September which represents an 11 percent increase over the year ago index. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers increased 10.8 percent from the year ago level reaching 279.1 in September.

New Hampshire Civilian Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment
and Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	Number of Workers			Numerical change from	
	September 1981	August 1981	September 1980	Previous month	Previous year
1. Civilian labor force*	476,130	479,700	466,640	-3,570	9,490
2. Unemployment	21,750	20,960	21,280	790	470
Percent of labor force	4.6	4.4	4.6	xx	xx
3. Employment total	454,205	458,625	445,360	-4,420	8,845
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	175	115	0	60	175
Nonagr. wage & salary**	396,000	397,100	392,800	-1,100	3,200
Manufacturing	116,000	116,300	115,750	-300	250
Durable goods	74,050	74,500	73,700	-450	350
Lumber & wood prods.	4,900	4,900	4,650	0	250
Furniture & fixtures	1,700	1,600	1,900	100	-200
Stone & clay prods.	2,900	3,000	3,100	-100	-200
Primary metal prods.	4,100	4,200	3,950	-100	150
Fabricated metal prods.	7,550	7,550***	7,400	0	150
Machinery (exc. elec.)	22,900***	23,250	22,750	-350	150
Electrical prods.	19,850	19,800	19,700	50	150
Miscellaneous prods.	2,050	2,100	2,000	-50	50
Other durable goods	8,100	8,100	8,250	0	-150
Nondurable goods	41,950	41,800	42,050	150	-100
Food & kindred prods.	2,800	2,750	3,150	50	-350
Textile mill prods.	4,650	4,600	4,000	50	650
Apparel	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100
Paper & allied prods.	6,100	6,050	6,300	50	-200
Print., pub. & allied	6,050	6,000	6,300	50	-250
Leather & lea. prods.	9,550	9,600	9,550	-50	0
Other nondurable goods	10,000	10,000	10,050	0	-50
Nonmanufacturing	280,000	280,800	277,050	-800	2,950
Construction (inc. min.)	21,800	21,500	19,850	300	1,950
Trans., comm. & util	14,050	13,550	14,050	500	0
Trade	88,300	89,450	87,650	-1,150	650
Fin., ins. & real estate	19,850	20,050	19,600	-200	250
Service industry & other	78,350	82,200	75,900	-3,850	2,450
Government	57,650	54,050	60,000	3,600	-2,350
Federal	11,300	11,450	11,350	-150	-50
State	13,750	14,200	15,650	-450	-1,900
Local	32,600	28,400	33,000	4,200	-400

* By place of residence
** By place of establishment
Benchmark March 1980

*** Fabr. Met. Prod. - August 1981 - 115 worker on strike not included

*** Mach. (Exc. Elec.) - September 1981 - 175 workers on strike not included

Total Unemployment and Labor Force by Labor Market Area (LMA) and County

Area	Unemployment*				Civilian Labor Force		Numerical Change from previous year	
	September 1981		September 1980		September		Unemployment	Labor Force
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	1981	1980		
United States***	7,687	7.3	7,464	7.1	105,964	104,720	223	1,244
New Hampshire	21,750	4.6	21,280	4.6	476,130	466,640	470	9,490
Labor Market Area								
Berlin	890	4.6	950	4.9	19,240	19,200	-60	40
Claremont	1,500	4.1	1,150	3.3	36,270	35,120	350	1,150
Concord	1,550	3.6	1,670	3.9	43,240	43,210	-120	30
Dover	2,180	5.0	2,470	5.7	43,330	43,660	-290	-330
Keene	1,370	3.7	1,290	3.5	37,090	36,560	80	530
Laconia	1,690	4.0	1,960	4.6	42,220	42,170	-270	50
Littleton	760	5.3	760	5.3	14,370	14,290	0	80
Manchester	4,040	4.9	4,040	5.0	82,190	81,590	0	600
Nashua	4,250	5.3	3,510	4.5	80,740	78,290	740	2,450
Portsmouth	2,110	4.1	2,230	4.7	51,550	47,160	-120	4,390
N.H. - Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA**	1,410	5.4	1,250	4.9	25,890	25,390	160	500
County								
Belknap	990	4.6	1,050	4.9	21,500	21,390	-60	110
Carroll	380	3.0	540	4.2	12,780	12,870	-160	-90
Cheshire	1,270	3.8	1,190	3.6	33,120	32,640	80	480
Coos	960	5.5	860	5.0	17,550	17,360	100	190
Grafton	1,210	3.6	1,270	3.9	33,260	32,880	-60	380
Hillsborough	7,610	5.2	6,920	4.8	145,900	143,020	690	2,880
Merrimack	1,650	3.3	1,940	3.9	49,960	49,980	-290	-20
Rockingham	4,620	4.5	4,560	4.6	103,740	98,670	60	5,070
Strafford	1,960	5.0	2,140	5.4	39,400	39,620	-180	-220
Sullivan	1,100	5.8	810	4.4	18,920	18,210	290	710

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" Handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey estimates.

** New Hampshire portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and six small towns.

*** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted

Employment Service Activity

Item	September 1981	August 1981	October 1980 to September 1981
Total applications for employment	3,348	3,207	74,588
Total nonagricultural job openings received*	2,053	2,194	21,403
Placements - job openings filled	1,278	1,624	12,908
Job openings unfilled end of month	1,236	1,249	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural	1,278	1,624	12,908
Berlin	131	126	1,074
Claremont	63	81	798
Concord	88	99	1,050
Dover	154	161	1,144
Keene	98	119	1,016
Laconia	144	152	1,164
Littleton	55	77	526
Manchester	195	222	2,041
Nashua	170	211	1,725
Portsmouth	180	376	2,370

* Includes Part Time, Seasonal and other openings.

Placements for Fiscal Year October 1, 1980 through September 30, 1981 were 12,098, an increase of 1,278 over the eleven months ending August 31, 1981. Placements decreased in September by 346 from August 1981. Total active applicants registered for Fiscal Year 1980 (October 1, 1980 - September 30, 1981) increased 4.7 percent to 74,588; of which 3,348 were new applicants or renewals applying in September for employment assistance. Nonagricultural job openings received during September fell 141 to 2,053, totaling 21,403 for Fiscal Year 1980. The Berlin Labor Market Area (LMA) reported a 4.0 percent increase in placements while all other LMA's reported decreases from 52.1 percent in Portsmouth LMA to 4.3 percent in Dover LMA. Approximately 44 percent of the active applicant file is female while veterans comprise 19 percent followed by the economically disadvantaged with nearly 18 percent of the active applicant file for September.

Job orders placed by employers during September totaled 2,053 openings received by local job service offices for a total of 3,302 openings available during the month. Of these, 1,278 or 38.7 percent were filled, 346 less than in August, leaving 1,236 job openings unfilled at the end of September. Thirty-one percent of the applicants were accounted for by the manufacturing sector, 28.5 percent in the trade industries and 19.2 percent in services. Placement leaders in the occupational categories were motor freight, transportation and other (18.9 percent), domestics and services (17.3 percent), structural (16.1 percent), clerical and sales (15.9 percent) and benchwork (14.1 percent). The remaining four occupational categories accounted for the remaining 17.7 percent of placements for September.

Weekly Claims Filed During the Month
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. Federal Employees No UI		U.C. State Workers (Only)		Servicemen UCX (Only)		UC Local Government	
	Init.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All offices	4,346	25,136	78	369	36	239	75	382	37	153
Berlin	425	1,644	0	0	4	15	6	31	9	29
Claremont	342	1,580	1	7	1	10	6	32	11	42
Concord	289	2,126	5	10	17	39	7	26	2	1
Dover	606	2,676	4	29	1	28	15	67	6	26
Keene	391	1,599	5	27	0	14	7	24	0	2
Laconia	478	2,637	2	10	5	31	6	47	3	27
Littleton	192	949	0	5	1	18	7	8	0	6
Manchester	727	5,666	7	46	3	68	6	59	0	13
Nashua	544	3,690	47	219	1	5	10	53	3	0
Portsmouth	352	2,569	7	16	3	11	5	35	3	7
Not included above:										
Liable Interstate	3,491	2,640	12	46	--	--	2	3	0	21

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was $85.71 for August.

Insured Unemployed by Industry

Industry	September 1981	September 1980	Numerical Change
Total - all industries	5,672	7,140	-1,468
Manufacturing	2,438	3,194	-756
Durable goods	1,168	1,342	-174
Electrical products	430	327	103
Machinery	272	211	61
Lumber & wood pds.	148	141	7
All other durables	318	663	-345
Nondurable goods	1,270	1,852	-582
Leather & lea. pds.	381	643	-262
Textiles	229	499	-270
Paper & paper prods.	74	141	-67
Printing & allied	69	82	-13
Apparel	59	76	-17
Rubber & plastic pds.	242	366	-124
Other nondurables	216	45	171
Nonmanufacturing	3,234	3,946	-712
Construction	636	1,384	-748
Trade	1,132	1,139	-7
Services	908	868	40
All other nonmfg.	558	555	3

The number of insured unemployed in September 1981 declined by 703 or 11 percent from August 1981. Manufacturing fell 165 while nonmanufacturing accounted for the balance or 538. In manufacturing, lumber and wood, leather, paper, rubber and plastic products recorded increases in insured unemployment in September. Trade and services had the largest drops in insured unemployment with 209 and 169 respectively. These decreases were due to a reduction of the civilian labor force caused by some workers leaving jobs and returning to school Approximately 28 percent or 1,596 of the insured unemployed for September were out of work 1 - 4 weeks, another 40 percent or 2,298 were unemployed for a duration of 5 - 14 weeks and the balance being out of work 15 weeks or more. Nearly two-thirds were under 45 years of age and 55 percent were females.

FUND BALANCE: There was $80,845,804.03 in the unemployment compensation fund at the end of September. Net contributions amounted to $127,843.13 and net benefits paid during the month amounted to $1,837,275.70. Interest credited for the period was $1,896,235.61. Net contributions in August amounted to $3,781,806.94 and net benefits were $2,057,298.20.

Labor Turnover Rates Per 100 Employees

Industry	Accession Rates						Separation Rates								
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980
Manufacturing	4.4	4.4	5.0	3.5	3.1	3.4	4.3	4.3	5.3	2.8	2.2	3.7	0.5	1.2	0.8
Durable goods	3.7	3.4	3.9	2.9	2.4	2.7	3.6	3.3	4.3	2.4	1.9	3.1	0.5	0.8	0.4
Lmbr. & wood pds.	8.8	9.4	6.9	8.4	8.1	6.4	9.2	8.0	7.5	7.3	5.9	5.0	*	0.9	0.9
Furn. & fixtures	10.9	3.1	12.7	3.1	2.6	4.3	12.2	2.2	4.6	3.8	1.3	3.8	7.8	*	*
Stone & clay pds.	3.2	3.5	6.0	2.5	1.8	5.9	4.6	2.1	5.6	2.9	1.3	3.7	0.9	0.4	0.8
Prim. metal pds.	2.3	2.9	1.8	2.2	2.7	1.8	1.6	2.3	3.7	0.9	2.0	2.7	*	*	0.6
Fab. metal pds.	3.6	4.2	5.5	2.9	2.8	4.1	5.5	3.4	3.6	2.7	1.9	2.6	2.3	1.1	0.4
Electrical pds.	3.9	4.5	3.9	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	2.8	2.0	3.6	0.1	1.2	0.2
Misc. prods.	5.0	6.4	8.5	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.9	6.4	6.3	4.2	3.6	5.0	0.3	0.9	*
Mach. & other	2.7	1.5	2.4	1.9	0.9	1.3	1.9	2.2	3.6	1.2	1.1	2.4	0.1	0.7	0.4
Nondurable goods	5.5	6.1	6.8	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.5	6.1	7.2	3.6	2.9	4.7	0.5	2.0	1.4
Food & kindred	3.0	7.8	9.0	2.5	2.7	5.5	6.5	8.4	6.5	4.3	2.9	5.9	1.2	5.2	0.1
Textile mill pds. And apparel	6.2	4.8	6.4	4.9	4.0	4.0	5.4	6.3	10.3	3.4	3.1	3.8	0.4	0.9	4.4
Paper & allied	3.2	3.2	4.6	0.9	1.8	1.1	4.7	2.7	5.1	1.9	0.8	2.3	0.1	1.2	2.5
Prt.pub.&allied	2.2	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.1	1.8	3.6	2.2	3.7	2.2	1.3	3.2	0.6	0.3	0.2
Lea. & lea. pds.	8.7	11.6	9.5	7.3	7.6	7.8	8.1	10.3	10.2	5.5	5.3	8.1	0.9	3.1	0.8
Other nondurables	6.2	5.7	8.2	5.4	5.1	5.2	4.5	6.0	5.6	3.4	2.9	4.1	0.3	2.3	0.4

* Less than 0.5 rate

The above data on turnover rates are a weighted series based on reports from 277 cooperating establishments representing 51 percent of the total manufacturing employment in the week including August 12, 1981.

The overall accession rate remained constant at 4.4 per 100 workers in August while the separation rate also remain unchanged from July to August at 4.3 per hundred workers. Most durable goods industries' accession rates dropped from July to August with the exception of the furniture and fixtures industries which increased from 3.1 in July to 10.9 per 100 workers in August, due to large numbers of recalls during the month. Nondurable goods industries total accession rate dropped from 6.1 per hundred in July to 5.5 per hundred in August due to the drop in the accession rate in the food and leather industries; 7.8 to 3.0 per hundred in food and 11.6 to 8.7 per hundred workers in leather industries, mostly due to the economic climate of the times.

Durable goods quit rate changes from July to August balanced out to a slight increase in August rates over July. Nondurable goods quit rates as a group fell from 6.1 per hundred in July to 5.5 per hundred in August offsetting the increase in durable to result in a "no change" rate in overall manufacturing quit rate from July to August.

Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries of New Hampshire

Industry	Average weekly earnings			Average weekly hours			Average hourly earnings		
	Sept. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980	Sept. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980	Sept. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980
All manufacturing	$258.84	$257.20	$240.40	39.7	40.0	40.0	$6.52	$6.43	$6.0.
Durable goods	268.40	265.06	246.02	40.0	40.1	40.2	6.71	6.61	6.12
Lumber & wood pds.	204.06	205.25	195.20	38.0	38.8	38.2	5.37	5.29	5.11
Furniture & fixtures	203.81	223.99	205.53	33.8	36.6	39.0	6.03	6.12	5.27
Stone & clay pds.	234.90	248.22	237.46	40.5	42.0	40.8	5.80	5.91	5.82
Primary metal pds.	301.09	312.67	271.56	43.7	44.1	42.9	6.89	7.09	6.33
Fab. metal prods.	252.01	261.74*	252.76	38.3	39.9*	41.3	6.58	6.56*	6.12
Mach. (exc. elec.)	296.94*	288.84	267.32	42.0*	41.8	41.9	7.07*	6.91	6.38
Electrical prods.	273.64	257.54	239.07	40.3	39.2	39.0	6.79	6.57	6.13
Miscellaneous pds.	195.83	192.39	190.42	36.4	36.3	39.1	5.38	5.30	4.87
Other durables	278.13	282.08	253.33	38.1	38.8	38.5	7.30	7.27	6.58
Nondurable goods	243.82	245.17	230.08	39.2	39.8	39.6	6.22	6.16	5.81
Food & kindred pds.	326.19	317.95	314.03	41.5	40.4	42.9	7.86	7.87	7.32
Textile mill prods.	220.64	223.82	196.22	39.4	40.4	38.4	5.60	5.54	5.11
Apparel	183.14	180.03	165.38	38.8	38.8	37.5	4.72	4.64	4.41
Paper & allied pds.	337.48	338.83	329.10	44.0	44.7	45.9	7.67	7.58	7.17
Print.,pub. & allied	273.48	273.10	254.96	40.1	40.7	39.9	6.82	6.71	6.39
Leather & lea. prods.	177.86	180.28	159.75	35.5	36.2	35.5	5.01	4.98	4.50
Footwear	166.85	170.75	150.30	35.2	36.1	35.2	4.74	4.73	4.27
Other nondurables	256.21	259.53	247.66	39.6	40.3	40.8	6.47	6.44	6.07

* Fabricated metal products - August 1981 - 115 workers on strike not included.
* Machinery (Excluding Electrical) - September 1981 - 175 workers on strike not included.

The above data on hours and earnings are a weighted series based on reports from 314 cooperating establishments representing 55 percent of an estimated 84,360 production workers who worked or received pay for any part of the pay period including September 12, 1981. Persons on unpaid leave or vacation without pay are excluded.

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS: The average hourly earnings for production workers rose nine cents from August to September. Durable goods workers had an increase of average hourly wage of ten cents while nondurable goods workers had an increase of six cents in average hourly wages.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS: The average workweek decreased 0.3 hour to 39.7 hours in September, the same decrease from a year ago. Durable goods dropped 0.1 hour, while nondurable goods decreased 0.6 hour for September 1981.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Average weekly earnings for September rose by $1.64 over August 1981 to $258.84. Durable goods rose $3.36 while nondurable goods dropped $1.35. The reduction of lower paid workers in the labor force due to separation increases in the average hourly earnings offsetting the reduction in average weekly hours were factors in an increase in average weekly wages.

U.S. Consumer Price Index - 1967=100

Item	1981	1980	1979	1878	1977
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers					
Current month - September	279.1				
Percent change from year ago	10.8				
Year average		247.0	217.7	195.3	181.5
Percent increase each year		13.5	11.5	7.6	6.5
All Urban Consumers					
Current month - September	279.3				
Percent change from year ago	11.0				
Year average		246.8	217.4	195.4	181.5
Percent increase each year		13.5	11.3	7.7	6.5

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